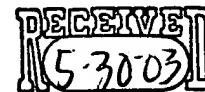


Official



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicants: James Q. Mi, et al. § Art Unit: 2132
Serial No.: 09/259,620 §
Filed: February 26, 1999 § Examiner: Douglas J. Meislahn
Title: Computer System § Docket No. ITL.0160US
Identification § (P6668)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action mailed on March 31, 2003, the Examiner maintained the § 103 rejections of claims 1-38. Reconsideration of these rejections is requested for the reasons set forth below.

Rejections of Claims 1, 3-9 and 21-24:

The method includes retrieving a processor number that identifies a processor of the second computer system; and the apparatus of claim 6 includes a processor that is adapted to encrypt a processor number that identifies the processor.

In the latest Office Action, the Examiner reasons that the personal identification number of Claus is "unique to the microprocessor" and therefore, concludes that this personal identification number identifies the smart card. However, the Examiner is requested to consider the specific claim limitations of independent claims 1 and 6. In this manner, independent claim 1 recites retrieving a processor number that identifies a processor. Claus neither teaches nor suggests such a retrieval. Furthermore, claim 6 teaches a processor that is adapted to encrypt a processor number that identifies the processor. The Examiner fails to show where Claus allegedly teaches or suggests that the personal identification number is somehow correlated to a

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processor number on the smart card on which the user's personal information is stored. The mere fact that a reference can be modified is not sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness. M.P.E.P. § 2143.01. Therefore, for at least this reason, the Examiner still fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for independent claims 1 and 6. Claims 3-5, 7-9 and 21-24 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 10-14, 25 and 26:

In the latest Office Action, the Examiner contends that because Schneier teaches an identity-based verification, Schneier teaches the selective authorization of claim 10. However, considering the specific limitations of claim 10, the article of claim 10 recites instructions to cause a processor to selectively authorize encryption of an identifier based on the identification of another processor-based system. However, the Examiner does not point to any language in Schneier or Claus teaching selectively authorizing encryption based on identification of another processor-based system. Therefore, for at least this reason, the Examiner still fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for independent claim 10.

Claims 12-14, 25 and 26 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 15-20:

The Examiner states in the latest Office Action that, "Claus et al. has been shown to teach reception of a request for identification." However, Claus neither teaches nor suggests an instruction unit that receives an instruction that requests an identifier that identifies a microprocessor. The Examiner is requested to show where either reference allegedly teaches or suggests these claim limitations. Otherwise, withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of independent claim 15 is requested.

Claims 16-20 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 27-30:

The method of claim 27 recites using a hash value to identify information associated with a user of the second computer system and further recites that this user is stored in a database that is maintained by the first computer system. The Examiner fails to show where either Clause or

Schneier teaches or suggests these claim limitations. Therefore, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claims 27-30.

Rejections of Claims 31-34:

The article of claim 31 includes a storage medium that is readable by a first processor-based system. The instructions cause a processor of a first processor-based system to use a hash value to identify information associated with a user of a second computer system. This information is stored in a database that maintained by the first computer system.

The Examiner fails to show where either Claus or Schneier teaches or suggests these claim limitations. Therefore, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claim 31 is requested. Claims 32-34 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 35-37:

The system of claim 35 includes a first computer to use a hash value to identify information that is associated with a user of a second computer. This information is stored in a database.

The Examiner fails to show where either Claus or Schneier teaches or suggests the above-recited claim limitations. Therefore, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claim 35 is requested. Claims 36-38 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claims 1-38 and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to pay any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0160US).

Respectfully submitted,



Date: May 30, 2003

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